1954
AGRICULTURAL REPORT

COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Department of Agriculture

AUSTIN E. MAHONEY
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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TO THE STATE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND

THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Section 65.5 of the California Agricultural Code requires that the Agricultural Commissioner compile a report covering conditions, acreage, production, and value of the agricultural products of his county. This is the twenty-first annual report published by this department.

Approximately one hundred commercial crops are covered in this report, and for your easy reference they are segregated as to their commercial use wherever possible.

Acreages of permanent crops are reported in actual bearing acreage only, and other crops are reported in actual harvested acreage. Production is reported in units commonly used in the marketing of crops commercially in this county. Prices are reported on a F.O.B. basis. Cost of production, harvesting, packing, and other handling costs should be deducted to arrive at a true farm value.

Copies of this report are sent to a number of persons in other states, to federal, state, and county agencies throughout the United States, and to an increasing number of organizations and individuals within the state. The members of this department have made every effort to make this report as accurate as possible by checking our figures with every known source of reliable information.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all who have assisted my inspectors and deputies by furnishing necessary information to them, which has made the compilation of this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin E. Mahoney

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

PERSONNEL

Stockton Office — Hazelton and B Streets — Stockton HO 6-6806

Austin E. Mahoney	Agricultural Commissioner
Lester R. Brumbaugh	Chief Deputy Commissioner
Mark A. Huberty	Deputy Commissioner
Kenneth W. Jones	Linden District
John Odelberg	Stockton District
Elmer T. Pahl	Seed Inspection & Certification
John R. Solari	Roberts Island District
Dwight V. Smith	Quarantine & Standardization
Marvin Switzenberg	Weed Control Supervisor
Don Zuckswert	Entomologist
D. V. Widney	Warehouse
Elna Benjamin	Bookkeeper & Stenographer
Geraldine Hodge	Stenographer Clerk

Lodi Office — 210 North Sacramento Street — Lodi 8-1432

George Stipe	Deputy Commissioner
L. F. Ashley	Victor District
Paul Switzenberg	Thornton District
Leslie Todd	Terminous District
Doris Storz	Typist Clerk

Manteca Office — 392 South 99 Highway — Manteca 797

Nick J. Wolter	Supervising Inspector
Walton Bauer	French Camp District
Allen Bugbee	Ripon District
Jess Grisham	Manteca District
Joseph F. Silva	Escalon District

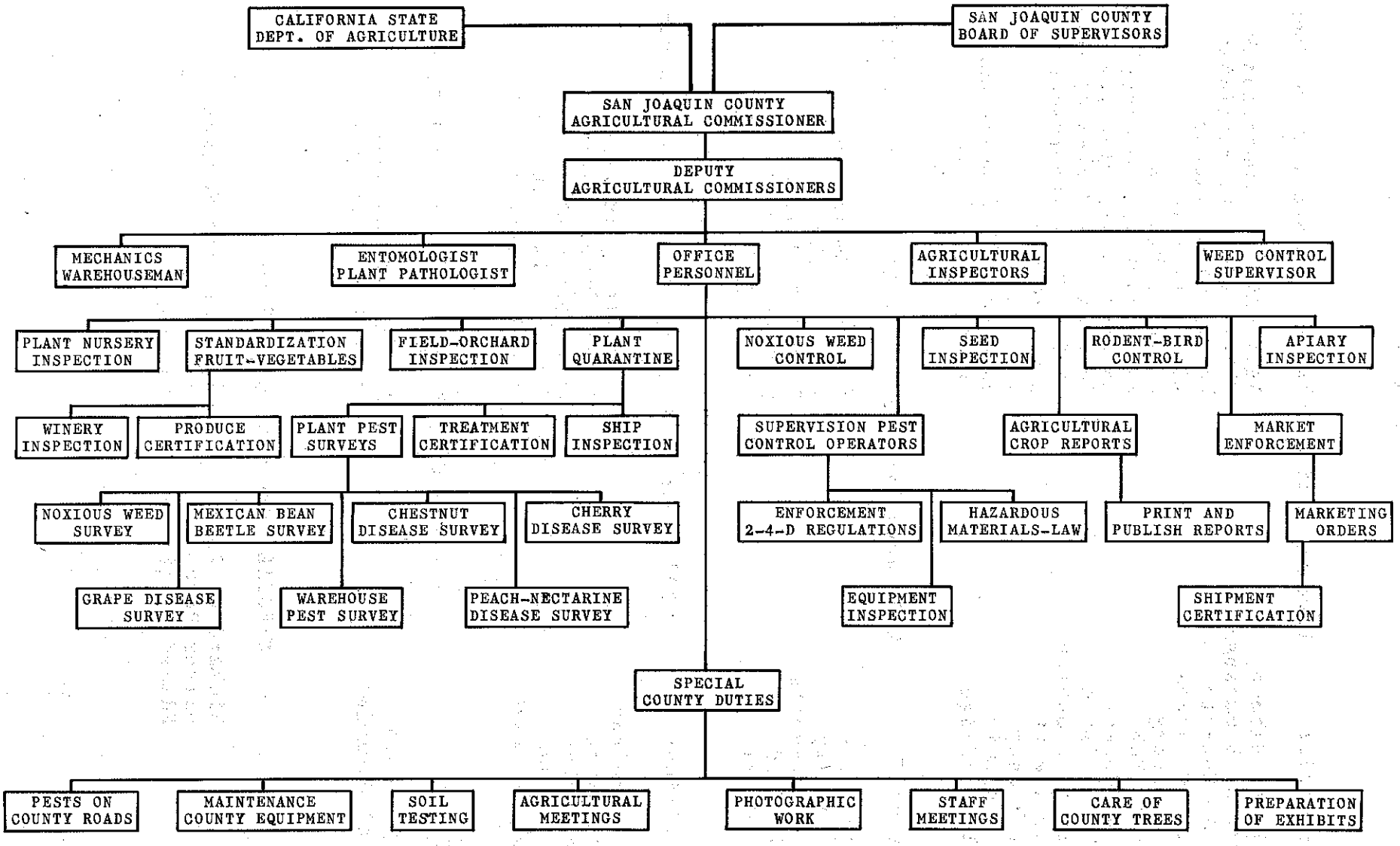
Tracy Office — Tracy City Hall — Tracy 605, Ext. 10

Aage R. Tugel	Deputy Commissioner
Wilfred McDaniel	South Tracy District

SPECIAL WEED CONTROL PROJECT

Richard R. Raney	Weed Control Foreman
Walter Beck	Mechanic
Edward Braghetta	Mechanic

FUNCTIONS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

It was in the year 1881 that the Board of Supervisors appointed three residents to act as the County Board of Horticulture for San Joaquin County. Their duties as a law enforcing agency were at that time, as now, to, "Protect and promote the Horticultural and Agricultural interests of the state." In 1910 the Board of Supervisors, acting upon the instructions of the State Director of Agriculture, appointed the first person to act as their Horticultural Commissioner.

In 1937 the Agricultural Code was amended as follows: There shall be the office of County Agricultural Commissioner in each county. Such commissioner shall be in charge of the County Department of Agriculture. The function of the department is to enforce agricultural laws; the purpose of which are to protect the welfare and agricultural interests of the county.

From the meager beginning of plant quarantine on grape vines the duties of this department have expanded greatly to entail an ever increasing number of duties. Some of these duties are plant quarantine; nursery inspection; field and orchard inspection; fruit-nut, vegetable, egg and honey standardization inspection; rodent and pest animal control; weed control; seed inspection; and apiary inspection. These various duties are outlined very briefly as follows:

PLANT QUARANTINE

The purpose of plant quarantine is to prevent the introduction or spread of noxious weeds, plant diseases, insects or other animal pests injurious or detrimental to the agricultural industry of California. These quarantine laws are indispensible, when you consider the many insects and plant diseases found in other parts of the United States which have not yet been introduced into California.

Since San Joaquin County is a highly diversified agricultural area, it is thus correspondingly vulnerable to a large array of plant diseases and other plant pests. By the enforcement of state and federal plant quarantine laws through continuous inspection of all plant material destined for propagation either entering or leaving the county maximum protection is provided by the County Agricultural Department. This involves the inspection at all post-offices, freight lines, express companies, vessels, and transportation lines of all plant material, and conveyances which may carry injurious plant disease, insect pests, noxious weeds or animal pests. Whenever shipments are found in violation, disposition of such plant material is either by treatment, destruction under the supervision of the inspector, or return to place of origin.

PLANT CERTIFICATION

When certification as to pest conditions or pest treatment is required by another state or foreign country, it is the duty of this office to examine such plant materials and issue the necessary certificates. Throughout the year many sanitary and fumigation certificates were issued to accomodate persons wishing to ship plant material to foreign countries. In addition to certification of shipments, shipping permits and certificates of inspection of nursery stock after thorough inspection were placed on all interstate shipments.

POSTENTRY INSPECTION

The federal Nursery Stock, Plant and Seed Quarantine Number 37 provides that certain foreign plant materials are permitted entry into the United States under certain restrictions including an approved growing ground for postentry inspections. During 1954 there were several lots of plant material imported into this county, and we assisted the state pathologists in the inspection of this nursery stock. No unusual diseases were found.

PLANT DISEASE AND INSECT SURVEY

The function of this work is to conduct surveys of crops, properties, and miscellaneous plant materials for new pests that may have been introduced into this area. In the event a potentially serious pest is found, immediate eradication or control measures are taken to prevent further spread. To determine the extent of spread of these insects or plant diseases, survey work by trapping and visual inspection is carried out. Examples of plant disease survey carried out in this county are Chestnut Blight, Yellow Leaf Roll of Peach, and Grape Mosaic. Insects under survey are Japanese Beetle, Mexican Bean Beetle, Cherry Fruit Fly, Oriental Fruit Fly, Clover Case Bearer, and Khapra Beetle.

NURSERY INSPECTION

Serious agricultural pests may be carried on various types of nursery stock which include trees and plants used for the production of our food crops or to decorate our gardens. To prevent the spread of pests in this manner, it is the duty of the Agricultural Commissioner to inspect nursery stock and the premises where such stock is grown or sold.

All nurseries in the county are inspected at frequent intervals for the presence of plant pests. This work involves the careful examination of large numbers of each variety of plants and the premises where the plants are grown.

ORCHARD AND FIELD INSPECTION

The provisions of the Agricultural Code relating to the control of insects and plant diseases which are pests to agriculture are methodically enforced by this office. Throughout the year, many inspections are made of various orchards, vegetable, and field crops for the purpose of determining the extent of damage by these established pests, and the control methods used. These pest control methods are noted, as are materials in current use and the advantages which such materials may have over those formerly used. Infestations and treated areas are inspected periodically to observe the degree of control, and records are kept on a monthly basis of the various operations in the county.

PEST CONTROL OPERATIONS

Commercial pest control operations are carried out in San Joaquin County according to the regulations of Chapter 1a of the California Agricultural Code. As required by regulation all commercial operators register with this office to carry out work in this county. In addition, each operator is required to report

monthly all work in the county. In this way, and through field inspection, this department keeps informed of commercial pest control operations through the year. During 1954, 22 aircraft operators and 32 ground rig operators registered in San Joaquin County.

Injurious insecticides as defined by the Director of the California Department of Agriculture are arsenic, TEPP, Parathion, EPN, OMPA, and O-O-diethyl O-2(ethylmercapto)-ethyl thioposphate. The law requires a permit be obtained before application of any of these materials is made. If there are serious hazards involved either to neighboring crops, livestock, bees, and humans, or to the operator himself, the permit may not be granted. At the time the application for a permit is made, the regulations and safety precautions are discussed with the farmer. Protection to the applicant and his neighbors is provided by these methods since, in many instances, the applicant had no knowledge of the hazards involved in the use of injurious insecticides. During the year 128 permits were issued for the use of injurious insecticides in San Joaquin County.

Permits are issued by this department for the use of 2,4-D and related injurious herbicides. This year, 366 permits were issued which represented 59,044 acres sprayed with 2,4-D. According to the rules and regulations for injurious herbicides, the equipment to be used for spraying is checked by our inspectors to make sure it meets the requirements of this county and the State Department of Agriculture. The regulations on wind velocity plus governing the nozzle size, pressure, and gallons per acre minimizes the possibility of damaging drift. The person applying for a permit must list the crops adjoining the field to be sprayed.

STANDARDIZATION OF FRUIT, NUT, VEGETABLE, EGG, AND HONEY

The activity of standardization work is authorized under Chapter 2, Division 5, of the Agricultural Code. It has to do with the inspection of eggs, honey, walnuts, and thirty-two different fruits and vegetables to see that they comply with the specific standards specified in the code. It also includes a general regulation on mold, decay and insect damage on all other fresh fruits and vegetables having no specific minimum quality standards.

This office is responsible for the enforcement of all such standardization laws and is required to inspect fruits, nuts and vegetables, eggs, and honey when being packed or whenever they are offered for sale. Inspectors visit packing houses, wholesale and distributing establishments and retail stores and markets daily, and by examination and tests of representative samples, determine that all provisions of the law as to quality, condition, pack and marks are complied with. Material found to be in violation is held by the inspector, a notice of such violation is issued to interested parties, together with instructions for the reconditioning of the commodity. Reconditioning is done under the direction of the inspector, and after reinspection to determine that the reconditioning has been properly done, the material is released for sale.

This is the fifth year we were requested by the Peach and Plum Advisory Board Officers to undertake inspection of their commodities during the marketing season. During the season, a total of 98,400 packages of peaches and 11,200 packages of plums were inspected and certified that they meet the requirements of the Marketing Order.

Section 771 of the Agricultural Code provides that wineries purchasing grapes on a sugar content basis shall have an official test made on each load delivered. This year several wineries required the services of this department to carry out the requirements of Section 771.

The certification of agricultural produce represents one of the major activities of this department in standardization work. This is exemplified by the fact that 2,975 certificates were issued during the year. The certificate is of considerable importance, not only to facilitate movement of produce past state inspection stations but to insure the recipient at destination produce that meets minimum standards of the California Standardization Law. This service is of special importance to growers and shippers alike in this county since there is a heavy export of fruits and vegetables grown in San Joaquin County.

RODENT CONTROL

Such animals as ground squirrels, field mice, gophers, and muskrats, due to their destructive habits are serious agricultural pests. Also, some of these rodents are the carriers of certain diseases transmissible to humans, such as plague and relapsing fever. For these reasons the California Agricultural Code gives the Agricultural Commissioner the power to control or eradicate these animal pests when circumstances require. It is the policy of this department to require the control of these pests and when necessary, issue legal abatement notices in order to protect other properties. To further facilitate the controlling of these rodents, this office maintains a service to all farmers in the mixing, handling, and selling of poison baits, rodenticide gases, and rodent field equipment. All poison baits are prepared by the Agricultural Department and are sold virtually at cost.

BIRD CONTROL

Numerous requests were received by this office during the year for information regarding the proper control of birds which were causing damage to agricultural crops. Control recommendations for these various species of birds are only made after field observations reveal crop losses. The poison baits and methods of control used by this department are those recommended by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Agriculture.

WEED CONTROL

Many plants because of their habits, are detrimental to agricultural crops and are therefore declared by the Agricultural Code to be serious noxious weeds and subject to abatement or control measures. The Agricultural Commissioner is given the power and it is his duty to prevent the spread of such noxious weeds by means of seed or otherwise, and at the same time require the control or eradication of established weed pests. Inspections are made of ranches, roadways, ditch banks, railroad rights-of-way, for the presence of noxious weeds, and when found, this department initiates certain measures in cooperation with all interested parties.

For the last seven years a special weed program has been carried out to help control or eradicate perennial noxious weeds on private property. To further assist the farmer in this program, the county through this department has made available powered spray rigs to apply herbicidal materials. This has been quite a factor to many farmers who do not have the necessary equipment to control noxious weeds on their property.

SEED AND GRAIN INSPECTION

Seeds sold within this county are inspected for the possible presence of noxious weed seeds and also examined for proper label information required by the California Seed Law. In cooperation with the California Crop Improvement Association all seed subject to certification is sampled and tagged under the supervision of this department.

Numerous lots of grain and hay are transported into this county for feeding purposes. These lots are inspected for the possible presence of noxious weed seeds, and all other quarantine regulations effecting such shipments. Whenever they are found to be in violation they are disposed of according to law.

Seed screenings which accumulate from all lots of seed are either destroyed or disposed of in a manner satisfactory to the Agricultural Commissioner.

APIARY INSPECTION

To protect the bee industry within the county, inspection of apiaries is carried out to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases injurious to bees. Colonies infested with American Foulbrood are fumigated to kill the diseased bees and then burned according to the prescribed method as outlined in the California Agricultural Code. In addition, a registration list of apiaries is maintained, certificates of inspection issued, and records of apiary moving permits are administered by this department.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

As required by Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code agricultural statistics are gathered throughout the year so a comprehensive report covering conditions, acreages, production and value of agricultural products of this county may be formed. The current economic picture formed by these statistics gives farmers a solid basis to make future plans. These statistics are of value not only to the farmers, but to all connected with our huge agricultural industry.

MARKET ENFORCEMENT

The county Agricultural Commissioner's Office extends every possible effort to aid the Bureau of Market Enforcement by collecting necessary evidence concerning cases involving controversies arising between growers and dealers. With this evidence, it is possible to offer a thorough presentation of facts on both sides resulting in a fair readjustment to all concerned. Many of these complaints are first received at this office and then all details concerning the complaint are transmitted to the bureau.

Investigations, hearings, and procedures set forth under the Produce Dealer's Act, the Processor's Law and Milk Control Law resulted in a net remittance of $52,920 to growers of this county.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Notwithstanding the fact that the primary functions of the Agricultural Department have to do with Law Enforcement, considerable work is done which is classed as Public Service.

Many calls are received from home owners requesting information as to their garden troubles or problems. If the inquiry cannot be answered by telephone, personal calls are made to diagnose the trouble and suggest remedies. Garden calls are welcomed, for they provide an opportunity to observe pest conditions in the metropolitan areas, and at the same time, afford the Department a chance to serve the home owners and give them the same protection and assistance that is given the farmers.

Frequent requests are received from persons who need direction as to the proper public agency they should contact for aid. The department endeavors to keep informed as to all the various agricultural and other public agencies in order to properly direct these persons.

Occasional talks are given by department personnel before club and group meetings on agricultural subjects and the work of the department. Cooperation of the public and an understanding on their part of the work of the department is most necessary, and for this reason, every opportunity to make personal contacts with the public is welcomed by the department personnel.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTAL DUTIES

There are a number of activities carried out by members of this department as supplemental to our regular duties. These activities are designed to facilitate the operation of this Department and extend to agriculturalists more complete service.

Identification of Insects, Diseases, and Plants

Throughout the year, many insects, plants or plant diseases are brought in to be identified. This is an important function of our office since it is closely related to quarantine and nursery inspection, field and orchard inspection, plant pest control and weed control. Only after identification, can control of the pest be recommended. Sometimes, in this way, the spread of a serious pest can be stopped. If positive identification cannot be made, the specimen is sent to an insect taxonomist, plant pathologist, or plant taxonomist of the State Department of Agriculture.

Farm Meetings

Inspectors from this department attend farm meetings from time to time in order to keep in close contact with the problems and needs of the farmers of the county. These meetings also provide excellent opportunities to introduce educational programs on the work of this office.

Photographic Work

Photographs are used by this department as a method of recording agricultural information for later reference. The photographs are taken by our personnel and developed in our own darkroom, which saves time and money. Occasionally some of the black and white prints are submitted as evidence in cases where departmental enforcement of agricultural law is required. The foremost purpose of the photographs is for visual education at farm groups and other meetings.

Soil Tests

Many times the presence of alkali or too much salt concentration will cause plants to be dwarfed or to die. This service is performed in our own laboratory as an aid to the inspectors in making recommendations of treatments to be used.

Spraying of County Shade Trees

Once again, this department sprayed county sycamore trees for sycamore scale in order to prevent losses. This year, 555 sycamore trees were treated with 8,400 gallons of a light medium oil spray mixture.

Shop Work

The Agricultural Department has its own shop where spray rigs used for the county's special weed control program are kept in repair and cleaned daily. The equipment used for this purpose is designed and assembled by our shop personnel, constituting a considerable savings to the county.

Staff Meetings

Inspectors' meetings are held at the Stockton office on a monthly basis. These meetings are important to determine departmental policies and activities because they give the inspectors a chance to discuss problems of the department, changes in laws, and activities of each district in the county. In this way, more uniform service can be given to the farmer.

Weather Reports

Once each week during the summer months and once each month during the winter months, weather reports are sent to the United States Weather Bureau. These reports show crop growing conditions in this county and how they are affected by weather changes.

Publications

Each year this department issues several news articles, a pest control guide, and an agricultural crop report for public information. These various publications are sent to radio stations, newspapers, local farm papers, and persons interested in agriculture work to give them a better knowledge of what is happening in agriculture.

Crop Summary
San Joaquin County - Year 1954

Weather conditions during the 1954 season proved highly favorable for the development and harvesting of most crops. Since climatic conditions affect the progress of all agricultural crops, no report would be complete without a brief review of the year's weather conditions.

January and much of February were months of many foggy days, overcast skies, intermittent rains coupled with a wide range of temperatures which was satisfactory for the development of most pasture grasses, grain crops, and orchard cover crops. The unusually warm weather in the last part of February and the first part of March accelerated the swelling of fruit buds and stimulated the growth of most crops. By March 10, most of the almond trees had responded to the spring-like weather and the majority of the different almond varieties were in full bloom. On March 12, 13, and 14 frost occurred and did considerable damage to almond and strawberry blossoms where no frost protection was used. Injuries were quite irregular in various localities, ranging from moderate to heavy damage. The lower tonnage produced this year by the almond trees has been mainly attributed to these low temperatures.

From January to late in April there were intermittent rains with heavy rains occurring near the last part of March, which were beneficial to most crops. Even though rainfall for this year was below normal, the cool overcast weather with timely spring showers checked the decline of soil moisture and stimulated the growth of many crops. The intermittent rains and sunshine during the blossom period of fruit trees contributed to a fair set of peaches, cherries, prunes, and plums. Moisture conditions for the season were adequate for the majority of crops, due to the well timed spring showers.

Most of the spring and summer remained moderately cool except for short periods of exceptionally hot days in June, July and September. The high temperatures in the middle part of September caused severe damage to walnuts and tomatoes in many localities. Fortunately, the fall season was dry and warm which permitted late crops to mature, resulting in a complete harvest for most crops.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Almonds

Frost damage last spring resulted in spotted yields in many orchards, especially in orchards that did not have adequate frost protection. Yields decreased considerably with large varience between orchards. The overall tonnage drop for the county was 1,518 tons; however, prices increased some. This represented the second year for this crop to drop in production.

Apricots

As usual most of the fruit went to the canneries. Prices stayed about the same; however, there was an increase of 1,200 tons over the previous year.

Cherries

The cherry crop was very heavy and as might be expected, fruit sizes were averaging below normal. Consequently, in some orchards part of the crop was never harvested. This also reflected in the sharp drop of 1,300 tons of black varieties for shipping. Due to the small sizes and stimulation of increased prices there was a 1,750 tonnage increase to canners. The Royal Anns dropped 900 tons below last year.

Chestnuts

The crop as a whole was normal; however, size was smaller due to the heat during the filling out stage of the nuts. Moreover, prices were slightly lower.

Figs

Most of this crop went to the cannery. Yields were spotted and as a whole represented a below normal crop. Due to poor margin of profit 207 acres were pulled out.

Grapes

The excellent weather conditions during harvest season permitted grape growers to pick their entire crop without any losses. Tokay shipments to fresh market decreased 144,401 packages below the previous year. The tonnage of Tokays to wineries increased 7,414 tons above last year's figures. For juice grapes, there were 36,871 tons shipped to eastern markets, which represents an increase of 3,557 tons more than the previous year. Shipments of juice grapes to wineries totaled 91,628 tons, an increase of 7,885 tons. Prices of both shipping and winery deliveries remained very similar to last year's prices.

Olives

Crop production compared with last year increased 38 per cent. The quality was good, but the size of fruit in general was smaller. A considerable amount of the crop went for olive oil.

Peaches (Cling)

The cling peach harvest season started August 5th and extended until around September 15th. Size and quality were slightly below normal. This year some trouble was experienced with brown rot and mildew, due to the dewy mornings and overcast skies occurring during the growing season. There was 40,445 tons delivered to food processors which represents only a 72 ton increase over last year.

Peaches (Freestone)

As in cling peaches, freestone peach growers experienced some difficulties with brown rot and mildew during the growing season. Shipments of fresh peaches increased 24,665 packages and cannery deliveries remained about the same as last year.

Pears

Most notable about the pear crop was the tremendous increase in yield. From 486 tons in 1953 to 1,168 tons which represents over a 40 per cent increase for this year. As in the past, most of the pear crop went to canneries.

Plums

The plum market throughout the season was strong, however, there was considerable price variations between varieties. Eastern and local plum shipments totaled 105,546 crates, a drop of 24,784 packages under last season's total shipments.

Walnuts

The acreage of this crop gained 466 acres, and the tonnage went up 1,152 tons over the year before. Sunburn, worms, and off color walnut meats were quite noticable in the various orchards throughout the county. Consequently, the quality was only fair and the size of walnuts averaged about the same as the previous year.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa

The warm weather at the start of the growing season stimulated plant growth, however the cool summer somewhat retarded plants for maximum growth. The first and second cutting suffered some rain damage, however, losses were not great. Alfalfa acreage decreased 1,840 acres from last year's planting, which is the first drop in acreage since 1951. Marketing conditions were quite active, with prices starting somewhat lower at the beginning of the season and advancing as the season progressed.

Beans

Yield and quality were slightly higher than last season, and for the fourth year in a row, bean growers enjoyed excellent weather conditions at harvest time. Average prices this year declined fifty-five cents per hundred and the overall acreage showed a gain of approximately 2,300 acres.

Field Corn

The corn acreage increased approximately 1,200 acres over last season's figures. The quality and yield were above normal and yields exceeded last season production figures by 700 pounds per acre.

Potatoes

Although quality and yields were good, market demands were only fair throughout the season. Market prices were very strong when the season opened but weakened as the season progressed. Even with these price variations there was a 75 cent increase over 1953 prices. Yield and acreage figures remained practically the same as last year.

Rice

Most notable for this crop were the difficulties experienced by growers in harvesting. The abundance of cool weather during the summer slowed up the proper development of the plants and prolonged the harvesting period. Consequently, the average yield dropped to 27 sacks per acre.

Sugar Beets

Excellent growing weather made it possible for sugar beet growers to establish a new county yield record. The record was 21.97 tons per acre. The acreage for this year decreased approximately 500 acres.

Sunflowers

There was an increase of 1,390 acres in the county, however, the yield per acre was lower. The quality was better than the year before but prices declined about 1.75 per cwt.

Sweet Potatoes

The quality of sweet potatoes was good, but the size in general was smaller than the year before. Both yield and acreage showed a decrease. Market demands were firm and prices advanced .50 cents per basket over last season prices.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Asparagus

Once again, asparagus growers experienced a very good season. Over all production was up, with strong market demands all season for both shipping and processing asparagus. Intermediate cold periods during March did slow up fresh shipments and caused a reduction in fresh market deliveries, however, processing deliveries jumped 3,000 tons over last year's production figures. Quality was good and prices for both canning and fresh asparagus increased over last season.

Carrots

The acreage for carrots this season showed a fair gain, an increase of 200 acres. Market demands were good; the stimulation in market conditions were due mainly to the new packing techniques. Approximately fifty per cent of the acreage went for fresh market, forty per cent for canning, and ten per cent of the acreage for stock food.

Celery

Since 1951, the celery acreage in San Joaquin County has been declining, due mainly to the poor margin of profit. The acreage for this year was only 1,950 acres, a reduction of 615 acres from last year's figures. Yields increased over 100 crates per acre, because of closer spacing of plants in field and favorable weather conditions. Quality was excellent and growers enjoyed good harvesting conditions this year.

Melons

Yields were slightly lower for most varieties, with prices remaining very similar to the 1953 season. Marketing demands were only fair and quality conditions for most varieties of melons were about average. Cranshaw, cantaloupe, honeydew, and persian melons decreased in acreage, with casabas and watermelons showing a gain in acreage of approximately 400 acres.

Onions

Yields and quality were satisfactory; however, there was a reduction in yield for early onions due to the various bulb rots caused by unfavorable weather conditions during the spring. Late onion yields were excellent, and produced more than 90 sacks per acre over last year's yield. Prices increased considerably, although marketing conditions were only fair during the year.

Peas

As in the past years practically all of the pea crop went to processing plants. The quality was excellent or above normal due to favorable climatic conditions. Yields were good, however, the acreage declined 265 acres from the 1953 season.

Spinach

For the second year in a row the spinach crop set a new county yield record of seven tons per acre. Excellent growing conditions plus good farming practices produced this record yield, quality was good, and as in the past practically all of the crop went for canning.

Strawberries

The county acreage increased 320 acres above the 700 acres of 1953. The frost that occurred in March, plus the increased new planting together with the rain on the early crop of berries caused the average yield to drop. The yield decreased from 1,590 crates per acre for last season down to 905 crates for this year. This year there were heavy shipments to frozen food plants, and prices remained the same as last year.

Tomatoes

The round tomato acreage dropped to 24,860 acres, a reduction of 3,985 acres from 1953. The pear tomato acreage remained practically the same, having 1,050 acres for the year. Yields were lower, the average being down 1.15 tons per acre from last year's report. The cool weather during the first part of the growing season favored the development of the different soil fungus which affected the production of many plants. Damage by worms and mould were at a minimum. The size of the fruit was slightly smaller than last season. Quality was good and the dry warm fall weather permitted most growers to completely harvest their crop.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

CROP		BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE PER UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE TOTAL
Almonds		8,339	.41	3,419	Ton	$475.00	$ 1,624,025
					28#		
	Ship.		5.15	4,985	Pkg.	1.50	7,477
Apricots	Proc.	968	5.10	4,937	Ton	95.00	469,015
	Dried		.04	39	Ton	600.00	23,400
Cherries	Royal	1,012	3.32	3,360	Ton	280.00	940,800
Other	Ship.	2,618	1.50	3,927	Ton	480.00	1,884,960
Cherries	Proc.		1.17	3,063	Ton	280.00	857,640
Chestnuts		68	1.00	68	Ton	280.00	19,040
	Ship.		.03	6	Ton	120.00	720
Figs	Proc.	202	.63	127	Ton	117.00	14,859
	Dried		.05	10	Ton	190.00	1,900
Grapes	Ship.		1.34	36,871	Ton	95.00	3,502,745
Juice	Wine	27,516	3.33	91,628	Ton	34.50	3,161,166
					28#		
Grapes	Ship.		223.68	4,813,817	Pkg.	1.75	8,424,180
Tokay	Wine	21,521	4.02	86,514	Ton	31.50	2,725,191
					28#		
Grapes	Ship		27.32	35,598	Pkg.	2.00	71,196
All Other	Wine	1,303	5.75	7,492	Ton	32.75	245,363
Misc'l Orchards		264			Acre	200.00	52,800
					28#		
Nectarines		96	348.00	33,408	Pkg.	1.50	50,112
Olives		373	2.15	802	Ton	140.00	112,280
					20#		
	Ship.		109.00	181,376	Pkg.	1.40	253,926
Peaches	Proc.	1,664	5.65	9,402	Ton	50.00	470,100
Free	Dried		.23	383	Ton	360.00	137,880
Peaches	Proc.	4,736	8.54	40,445	Ton	54.55	2,206,274
Cling	Dried			20	Ton	240.00	4,800
					28#		
	Ship.		16.00	1,168	Pkg.	3.00	3,504
Pears	Proc.	73	14.20	1,037	Ton	75.00	77,775
					28#		
	Ship.		147.00	105,546	Pkg.	3.70	390,520
Plums	Proc.	718	.12	86	Ton	50.00	4,300
					28#		
	Ship.		235.70	20,977	Pkg.	3.70	77,615
Prunes	Dried	89	.66	59	Ton	260.00	15,340
Walnuts		12,592	.65	8,185	Ton	366.00	2,995,710
						TOTAL	$30,826,613

FIELD CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE PER UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	67,360	6.50	437,840	Ton	$ 19.65	$ 8,603,556
Barley	79,250	19.00	1,505,750	CWT	2.40	3,613,800
Beans, Dry	14,470	17.20	248,884	CWT	8.30	2,065,737
Corn, Grain	13,195	1.60	21,112	Ton	62.00	1,308,944
Corn, Husks			92	Ton	600.00	55,200
Grain, Sorghum	5,700	28.00	159,600	CWT	2.60	414,960
Hay, Grain	6,035	1.75	10,561	Ton	18.00	190,098
Hay, Wild	7,100	1.25	8,875	Ton	18.00	159,750
Oats	9,010	10.00	90,100	CWT	2.45	220,745
Pasture Range	207,165			Acre	4.00	828,660
Pasture Clover	92,010			Acre	45.00	4,140,450
Pasture Sudan Grass	1,290			Acre	35.00	45,150
Pasture Stubble	112,000			Acre	1.50	168,000
Potatoes	6,550	327.00	2,141,850	CWT	2.40	5,140,440
Pumpkin Canning		6.55	1,703	Ton	9.00	15,327
Pumpkin Stock	260	12.00	3,120	Ton	3.00	9,360
Rice	16,921	27.00	456,867	CWT	4.25	1,941,685
Silage, Corn	2,820	16.00	45,120	Ton	7.00	315,840
Sugar Beets *	17,036	21.97	374,281	Ton	12.82	4,798,282
Sunflowers	4,595	10.50	48,247	CWT	7.25	349,790
Sweet Potatoes	1,220	190.00	231,800	Bskt	3.00	695,400
Wheat	9,370	14.00	131,180	CWT	3.60	472,248
					TOTAL	$35,553,422

* Includes Federal Subsidy

VEGETABLE CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

CROP		BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE PER UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE TOTAL
Asparagus	Ship.	55,697	14.77	822,645	30# Pkg.	$ 4.10	$3,372,844
	Proc.		.75	41,773	Ton	216.85	9,058,475
Beets, Table		80	16.00	1,280	Ton	30.00	38,400
Broccoli		220	1.60	352	Ton	150.00	52,800
Cabbage		45	300.00	13,500	Pkg.	1.75	23,625
Cauliflower		25	300.00	7,500	Pkg.	1.50	11,250
Carrots		575	15.00	8,625	Ton	30.00	258,750
Celery		1,950	500.00	975,000	Pkg.	2.05	1,998,750
Corn, Sweet		500	200.00	100,000	Pkg.	1.80	180,000
Cucumbers		230	6.80	1,564	Ton	46.65	72,961
Garlic		15	70.00	1,050	CWT	18.00	18,900
Lettuce		130	250.00	32,500	Pkg.	1.85	60,125
Melons	Cranshaw	145	8.00	1,160	Ton	35.00	40,600
	Cantaloupe	110	120.00	13,200	Pkg.	1.85	24,420
	Casaba	565	7.00	3,955	Ton	20.00	79,100
	Honeydew	220	8.00	1,760	Ton	25.00	44,000
	Persian	25	7.50	187	Ton	25.00	4,675
	Watermelon	1,700	12.70	21,590	Ton	20.00	431,800
Onions	Early	2,435	550.00	1,339,250	50# Sk.	1.00	1,339,250
	Late	585	700.00	409,500	Sk.	1.35	552,825
Peas	Proc.	735	1.90	1,396	Ton	74.00	103,304
Peppers		345	10.00	3,450	Ton	62.85	216,832
Spinach		655	7.00	4,585	Ton	22.50	103,162
Squash		505	10.00	5,050	Ton	20.00	101,000
Strawberries		1,020	905.00	923,100	12 Bskt.	2.00	1,846,200
Tomatoes	Ship		64.20	1,596,012	32# Pkg	2.25	3,591,027
	Round	24,860	16.75	416,405	Ton	20.00	8,328,100
	Pear	1,050	13.00	13,650	Ton	24.00	327,600
Truck Garden Misc'l Vegetables		820			Acre	250.00	205,000
					TOTAL		$32,485,775

SEED CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE PER UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE TOTAL
Alfalfa Seed	2,010	500.00	1,005,000	LB.	0.245	$ 246,225
Asparagus Roots	125			Acre	420.00	52,500
Asparagus Seed			2,500	LB.	2.00	5,000
Beans						
Certified Seed:						
*Light Red Kidney						1,103,899
*Dark Red Kidney						72,500
Mung	28	14	392	CWT	16.00	6,272
Cantaloupe Seed	30	412.45	12,373	LB	0.40	4,949
Carrot Seed	149	638.00	95,062	LB	0.37	35,172
Castor Bean Seed	120	1,625.00	195,000	LB	0.06	11,700
Corn Seed	66	725.00	47,850	LB	0.11	5,263
Cucumber Seed	15	465.00	6,975	LB	0.35	2,441
Ladino Clover Seed	1,982	170.00	336,940	LB	0.52	175,209
Millet Seed	400	1,300.00	520,000	LB	0.035	18,200
Mustard Seed	117	600.00	70,200	LB	0.12	8,424
Nursery Grape Vines and Trees						242,000
Nursery Other						120,000
Onion Seed	13	420.00	5,460	LB	1.25	6,825
Popcorn Seed	25	2,068.00	51,700	LB	0.07	3,619
Potato Seed	392	294.00	115,248	CWT	3.25	374,556
Pumpkin Seed	75	250.00	18,750	LB	0.25	4,687
Safflower Seed	240	500.00	120,000	LB	0.04	4,800
Squash Seed	132	330.00	43,560	LB	0.27	11,761
Sudan Grass Seed	805	1,350.00	1,086,750	LB	0.10	108,675
Watermelon Seed	99	217.00	21,483	LB	0.26	5,585
Other Seed Crops						$ 10,000
					TOTAL	$2,640,262

* Accurate prices and production figures are not available at this time. Total income for these two crops is estimated.

*PERMANENT CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
ALMONDS		
Drake	12	243
I X L	0	73
Jordanola	180	559
Mission	321	3,026
Ne Plus Ultra	79	465
Non Pareil	796	3,637
Peerless	24	300
Other	52	36
Total	1,464	8,339
APPLES		
Astrachan	1	10
Golden Delicious	0	1
Other	0	2
Total	1	13
APRICOTS		
Blenheim & Royal	35	599
Moorpark & Hemskirk	0	8
Tilton	76	357
Other	0	4
Total	111	968
CHERRIES		
Bing	849	1,660
Black Republican	1	25
Chapman	10	137
Lambert	44	224
Royal Ann	228	1,012
Tartarian	75	508
Other	56	64
Total	1,263	3,630
CHESTNUTS (All)	10	68
FIGS		
Black	0	20
Kadota	0	182
Total	0	202

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
GRAPES (Raisin)		
Muscat	0	153
Thompson Seedless	91	533
Zante Currant	0	11
Total	91	697
GRAPES (Table)		
Cardinal	6	33
Concord	0	7
Emperor	0	128
Malaga	0	77
Ribier	5	122
Tokay	519	21,521
Other	1	239
Total	531	22,127
GRAPES (Wine)		
Alicante	31	3,869
Burger	4	830
Carignane	190	6,886
Colombar	0	20
F. Reisling	0	16
Golden Chasselas	0	77
Grenache	67	905
Mataro	0	40
Mission	40	1,518
Palomino	0	1,003
Petite Sirah	0	388
Sauvignon Blanc	0	23
Zinfandel	63	11,111
Other White	0	140
Other Dark	127	690
Total	522	27,516
NECTARINES		
John Rivers	53	40
Other	79	56
Total	132	96
OLIVES		
Ascolano	0	32
Manzanillo	65	151
Mission	5	155
Other	5	35
Total	75	373

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
PEACHES (Cling)		
Andora	19	124
Carolyn	76	84
Corona	74	31
Cortez	218	79
Fortuna	45	115
Gaume	289	819
Gomes (Stuart)	121	437
Halford	401	1,201
Hauss	0	10
Johnson	0	103
Libee	0	49
Palora	444	900
Peak	34	184
Petersen	20	35
Phillips	0	136
Shasta	8	42
Sims	0	38
Stanford	27	127
Sutter	21	45
Vivian	82	0
Walton	9	51
Other	73	126
Total	1,961	4,736
PEACHES (Free)		
Babcock	3	3
Early Elberta	1	2
Elberta	181	806
Fay Elberta	261	37
J. H. Hale	9	127
Kim Elberta	8	36
Late Hale	18	56
Lovell	0	206
Muir	0	106
Nector	18	8
Red Haven	12	15
Rio Oso Gem	86	153
Salway	0	7
Other	32	102
Total	629	1,664

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
PEARS		
Bartlett	146	71
Beurre Hardy	0	1
Winter Nelis	0	1
Total	146	73
PERSIMMONS (All)	0	3
PLUMS		
Beauty	0	2
Burbank	0	7
Duarte	21	104
Grand Duke	0	1
Kelsey	0	3
President	6	52
Santa Rosa	40	233
Tragedy	10	215
Other	58	101
Total	135	718
PRUNES		
French	4	4
Robe De Sergeant	0	5
Sugar	0	76
Other	0	4
Total	4	89
QUINCES (All)	0	11
WALNUTS		
Concord	0	43
Eureka	494	3,162
Franquette	184	3,298
Hartley	665	452
Mayette	2	647
Payne	462	4,653
Placentia	0	86
Other	389	241
Seedling	41	10
Total	2,237	12,592
BLACK WALNUTS	673	240
ASPARAGUS	2,482	55,697

Every five years, with the assistance of the Federal and State Department of Agriculture, a complete new survey is made of all permanent crops in San Joaquin County. The readjustment of acreage figures is the result of this new survey.

THE TREND OF FRUIT & NUT CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS

BEARING ACREAGE

CROP	YEAR 1939	YEAR 1944	YEAR 1949	YEAR 1954
Almonds	4,166	5,467	8,014	8,339
Apples	32	36	36	13
Apricots	1,702	1,807	1,773	968
Cherries	4,436	4,129	4,111	3,630
Chestnuts	251	174	132	68
Figs	516	510	500	202
Grapes, Juice	33,848	32,068	33,398	27,516
Grapes, Raisin	741	987	887	697
Grapes, Table	1,759	1,372	1,237	606
Grapes, Tokay	17,648	17,949	20,104	21,521
Olives	364	350	348	373
Nectarines	124	174	195	96
Peaches, Cling	3,294	4,007	5,403	4,736
Peaches, Free	2,737	3,189	3,123	1,664
Pears	374	135	142	73
Persimmons	5	13	14	3
Plums	1,597	1,267	1,174	718
Prunes	1,253	877	673	89
Walnuts	8,960	9,227	9,720	12,592

THE TREND OF FIELD CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS

BEARING ACREAGE

CROP	YEAR 1939	YEAR 1944	YEAR 1949	YEAR 1954
Alfalfa hay	44,829	49,131	58,925	67,360
Barley	126,680	83,924	90,966	79,250
Beans, All	26,554	14,336	19,279	14,468
Corn, Grain	11,384	14,594	10,735	13,195
Flax seed	4,338	307	96	0
Grain, sorghum	11,390	9,644	3,867	5,700
Hay, grain	21,343	31,549	9,308	6,035
Hay, wild	8,358	18,033	8,699	7,100
Oats	9,463	13,013	8,496	9,010
Pasture, Range	248,106	210,000	226,151	207,165
Pasture, Ladino clover	14,686	28,257	57,104	92,010
Pasture, Sudan Grass	4,771	3,024	1,350	1,290
Potatoes, All	11,241	8,278	5,285	6,942
Pumpkins	452	705	471	260
Rice	2,362	2,666	8,091	16,921
Silage corn	1,841	1,368	874	2,820
Sugar beets	14,191	6,138	10,655	17,036
Sunflowers	1,567	2,650	1,464	4,595
Sweet potatoes	1,650	2,200	1,705	1,220
Wheat	33,863	23,603	12,854	9,370

THE TREND OF VEGETABLE CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS

BEARING ACREAGE

CROP	YEAR 1939	YEAR 1944	YEAR 1949	YEAR 1954
Asparagus	30,053	38,530	51,836	55,697
Beets, table	22	324	14	80
Broccoli	125	255	10	220
Cabbage	100	144	48	45
Cauliflower	100	70	22	25
Carrots	944	1,500	406	575
Celery	6,451	5,159	4,188	1,950
Corn, sweet	350	365	541	500
Garlic	20	9	14	15
Lettuce	78	50	197	130
Melons, All	2,875	2,054	2,574	2,765
Onions	1,879	2,938	2,876	3,020
Peas	2,936	5,021	857	735
Peppers	95	40	89	345
Spinach	987	1,563	680	655
Squash	316	580	348	505
Strawberries	90	30	275	1,020
Tomatoes, round	1,675	15,339	19,764	24,860
Tomatoes, pear	9,508	10,220	2,953	1,050

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1954

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	620,220	Lbs.	@	.105	$	65,123.00
Bees Wax	7,500	Lbs.	@	.42		3,150.00
Queen Bees	5,000	Queens	@	1.00		5,000.00
Pollenization	6,900	Colonies	@	3.00		20,700.00
				Total	$	93,973.00

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk and Milk Products	$	13,899,000.00

LIVESTOCK

Beef Cattle and Calves	$	11,545,650.00
Hogs		1,737,541.00
Sheep and Wool		2,423,390.00
Total	$	15,706,581.00

POULTRY

Chickens	$	1,846,820.00
Eggs		1,741,052.00
Turkeys		861,401.00
Total	$	4,449,273.00

SUMMARY

Fruit and Nut Crops	$	30,826,613.00
Field Crops		35,553,422.00
Vegetable Crops		32,485,755.00
Seed Crops		2,640,262.00
Apiary Products		93,973.00
Dairy Products		13,899,000.00
Livestock		15,706,581.00
Poultry Products		4,449,273.00
Grand Total	$	135,654,879.00

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1954
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT & SPECIAL WEED CONTROL

CLASSIFICATION

Administration	$28,827.70	
Plant Quarantine	12,255.93	
Fruit, Nut, Vegetable, Honey and Egg Standardization	19,830.95	
Field and Orchard Inspection	24,758.55	
Nursery Inspection	5,786.60	
Seed Inspection	3,129.26	
Rodent Control	20,844.76	
Weed Control	20,128.16	
Apiary Inspection	662.81	
Crop Statistics	12,266.60	
Fairs and Exhibits	253.07	
Gardener & Janitor	6,348.00	
		$155,092.39
Capital Outlay		122.06
	Total	$155,214.45

SPECIAL WEED CONTROL

Salaries and Wages	$34,669.00	
Maintenance and Operation	25,043.63	
Capital Outlay	3,447.98	
	Total	$ 63,160.61